



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 09/650,075  
Applicant : Saban *et al.*  
Filed : August 29, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 1753  
Examiner : Noguerola, Alexander Stephan  
For : **Microband Electrode Arrays**  
Docket No. : 83-96A  
Customer No.: 23713

Confirmation No.: 9196

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INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

On January 22, 2004, Examiner Alexander Noguerola participated in a telephone interview with Stephen Barone and Sally Sullivan relating to U.S. Application 09/650,075 filed on August 29, 2000. Prior to the interview Examiner Noguerola was provided with a draft set of amended and new claims to facilitate the discussion.

Proposed amendments to claims 54, 69, 81 and 91 to indicate that the lengths of gaps between microband electrodes are "each larger than the sum of the lengths of diffusion layers surrounding adjacent electrodes formed upon establishing steady state conditions at the surface of each of said microband electrodes" and to specify that the "microband electrode array sensor generates a steady state signal equal to the sum of

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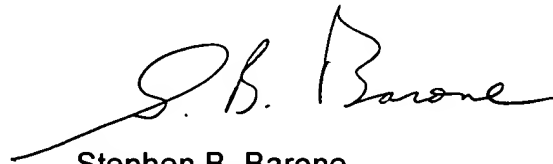
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Reply to Office Action Of September 26, 2003

the signals produced by each of said microband electrodes when operated independent of said microband electrode array sensor" were discussed. In addition, new claims directed at methods of determining the identity, concentration or both of analytes in a sample were discussed.

Applicants and Examiner Noguerola agreed that the proposed amendments to method claims 54, 69 and 81 rendered the subject matter of claims 54, and 69 - 90 patentable in view of the prior art of record. In addition, the Examiner indicated that proposed new claims 96 - 98 were allowable in the form presented during the interview. The Examiner recommended a number of amendments, however, to improve the overall clarity of claims 54, 69 and 81.

The scope of the disclosure in Thormann *et al.* was discussed. Specifically, Applicants argued that Thormann et al. did not teach or suggest electrochemical analysis methods providing the additivity of independent microband electrodes at steady state.

Respectfully submitted,



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